

Applicant : John E. Hartman  
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A hanger assembly for hangingly supporting a potted plant, comprising:

at least one supporting collar comprising at least one inner aperture extending therethrough adapted to receive a potted plant therein, an outer edge, a plurality of slots extending inwardly from the outer edge and each having a narrowed throat section and an expanded seat section, and a plurality of frusto-conical surfaces in communication with the slots;

a plurality of flexible support members slidably received within the plurality of slots; and

a plurality of stop members fixedly connected to the plurality of flexible support members along a length thereof, wherein the stop members ~~are seated within~~ contact the frusto-conical surfaces of the at least one support collar and prevent downward movement of the supporting collar with respect to the plurality of flexible support members.

Claim 2 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the slots snappably receive one or more flexible support members.

Claim 3 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the support members comprise cables or rope.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the frusto-conical surfaces are centered at the seat sections of the slots ~~stop members comprise one or more components.~~

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Claim 5 (previously presented): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the plurality of stop members are crimped, glued, welded or otherwise fixedly attached to the flexible support members.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The hanger assembly of claim 5 wherein the plurality of stop members are spherically shaped.

Claim 7 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the supporting collar comprises a substantially planar shape.

Claim 8 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 1 wherein the supporting collar comprises plastic, metal, wood, or any composite or combination thereof.

Claim 9 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 1 further comprising a swivel support.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A hanger assembly for hangingly supporting a potted plant, comprising:

a supporting collar comprising at least one aperture extending therethrough adapted to receive at least one potted plant therein, an outer edge, a plurality of slots extending inwardly from the outer edge and each having opposed side surfaces defining a narrowed throat section and an expanded seat section, and a plurality of the opposed side surfaces at the expanded seat section being tapered to define frusto-conical surfaces in communication with the slots; and

a plurality of flexible support members slidably connected to the at least one received in the slots of the supporting collar, such that the location of the supporting collar along a length of the flexible support members is slidably adjustable.

Claim 11 (original): The hanger assembly of claim 10 wherein the slots snappably receive one or more flexible support members.

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Claim 12 (currently amended): The hanger assembly of claim 10 wherein the support members comprise cables or rope, and including a plurality of stop members on the support members, the stop members abutting the frusto-conical surfaces of the slots.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The hanger assembly of claim 10 wherein the supporting collar comprises a substantially planar shape.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The hanger assembly of claim 10 wherein the supporting collar comprises plastic, metal or any composite or combination thereof.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The hanger assembly of claim 10 further comprising a swivel support.

Claims 16-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (new): A hanger assembly for supporting potted plants, comprising:  
a pot for plants having an outer peripheral surface having a circular shape in cross section and a horizontally outwardly extending lip having a lower surface extending around the outside of the pot;  
a ring-like support collar comprising a horizontal web defining an upper surface, a lower surface, an outer peripheral surface and an inner peripheral surface having a generally circular shape in plan view and defining a vertical axis and a hole extending through the collar, the inner peripheral surface defining a lower peripheral edge extending around the collar, the outer peripheral surface including at least three outwardly protruding portions, each outwardly protruding portion including a slot at a center portion of the outwardly protruding portion;  
a plurality of flexible support members disposed in the slots; and wherein:  
the pot is removably positioned in the hole of the support collar with a lower portion of the pot extending below the lower peripheral edge of the inner peripheral surface, the lower

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surface of the lip of the pot contacting the support collar to support the pot in an upright position.

Claim 21 (new): The hanger of claim 20, wherein:

the outer peripheral surface includes portions between the outwardly protruding portions having a constant distance from the vertical axis.

Claim 22 (new): The hanger of claim 21, wherein:

the slots define opposed surfaces that are tapered to define a truncated conical shape.

Claim 23 (new): The hanger of claim 22, including:

stop members on the flexible support members, the stop members abutting the tapered surfaces of the slots.